Creating a Mission Presentation

As an MMI you will be looking for opportunities to share the story of what Disciples and the UCC are doing in mission around the world. Depending on your comfort level and gifts, those opportunities might come in one-on-one conversations, small group discussions or Sunday worship. Whatever the opportunity, it is important to think now about how you will interpret the work of Global Ministries in various contexts including your conference/region and area or local congregations.

Preparing to Tell the Story

What can you do now to prepare? Here are seven ideas to consider:

1. Become familiar with all of Global Ministries’ resources: DVDs/videos, brochures, key documents, display, website, mission education tools…
2. Start collecting anything and everything that will help you share the story: maps, artifacts, scripture, games, recipes, worship materials, stories…
3. Learn what your audience knows about global mission: ask questions about what they know and don’t know about Global Ministries, what they are already doing in local and global mission, what they are interested in…
4. Begin building a repertoire of different types of presentations: mission moment, Connecting Threads DVD and study guide, mission sermon, Be a Global Mission Church, missionary/partner/country profiles, advocacy issue study…
5. Think about how to include audio-visual technology: laminated photos, music CDs, videos, DVDs, website, PowerPoint…
6. Build relationships through the appropriate congregational and region/conference structures: express your availability and willingness to help. Share what you can offer and ask them to help with opening doors, consider serving on an existing region/conference mission committee or help to create one…
7. Explore the utilization of all existing communication networks in your local congregation and region/conference: website, newsletter, e-mail list-serves, clergy gatherings, region/conference and association meetings…

Things to Remember Before a Mission Presentation

“You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hid nor do we light a lamp and put it under a bowl, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. Let your light shine before people, that they may see your good works and give glory to God.” Matthew 5:14-16

You will be sharing the story of God’s mission and how Global Ministries helps Disciples and UCC congregations participate in that mission. Please consider the following as you prepare specific presentations:
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Speaking Tips:
Remember, all groups have certain expectations of speakers which include:

- dress well.
- respect the audience.
- be happy to be with the audience.
- end on time.

Be prepared:

- Practice your presentation.
- Time yourself (you should be able to offer a coherent program of various time limits).
- Check your supplies. It’s a good idea to carry scotch tape, scissors, marking pens, push pins and masking tape.
- Try to arrive at least one hour prior to the event in order to have adequate time to set up, meet the coordinator and get a sense of the space.

What to do when you first arrive:

- Wear a name tag. (Keep and use the name tag you get from Global Ministries.)
- Double check how much time you will have. What’s the closing time? Find a quiet place to sit and adjust your presentation to fit the available time, if necessary.
- Set up your display table in a central and visible spot.
- Set up and check equipment.
- Set up projector and/or TV.
- Arrange for someone else to handle lights, if you will need them turned off.
- Place flashlight near script.
- Arrange for a cassette or CD player to play music during the gathering time.
- Engage people in conversation as they arrive. Introduce yourself. Show them items in your display. Ask them about the mission projects their church embraces.
- If time allows, wander the church halls and review their bulletin boards. This is a good way to find out where their hearts, minds and financial commitments are.
- If it’s a potluck, offer to lead grace (spoken or sung).

Know the setting:

- Time allotted for presentations will vary from 5 to 90 minutes. Usually a group will schedule 30 to 60 minutes for a presentation. Know how to increase and decrease easily the length of your presentation. Find out available time beforehand. One variable can be your Question & Answer period that can be lengthened or shortened easily.
- What is the seating arrangement? Sound system? Lighting? Accessibility of electrical plugs? Tables for displays? Can display items be hung on the wall?
- Be prepared for the extremes. Groups may include from 5 to 500 people! Usually groups will range from 25-30 people.
- Groups will vary in age, interest and purpose. Groups you are likely to encounter include:
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Local churches:
- Worship
- Fellowship groups
- Bible study groups
- Sunday School
- Potluck suppers
- Vacation Bible School
- All-church gatherings – multi-generational
- Mission committee
- Women’s groups (Christian Women’s Fellowship, circles, retreats)
- Confirmation class
- Youth groups

Large church gatherings:
- Regional, conference and association meetings
- Church camp
- Workshop participants at a larger event
- Ministers’ gathering
- Advocacy groups
- Retreats

Seminaries, colleges and universities related to our churches:
- Classes
- Worship
- Seminars
- Seminarian retreats

People often apologize for the small size of a group. Don’t be discouraged by a small group. “Where two or more are gathered...” Small groups afford people a more intimate setting in which to learn about the wider mission of the church. The seeds for increased giving and future missionaries are often sown in small group settings.

Knowledge Level:
How well will a group be acquainted with Global Ministries? This will vary from those who have never heard of GM, to those who are highly knowledgeable and politicized. Be prepared for both extremes: the novice and the expert. To help you know your group, ask if anyone has visited or lived overseas.

Remember, although you will not know everything about Global Ministries, the gift you bring as a Ministries and Mission Interpreter is your personal, first-hand experience of your own faith journey and you can help to dismantle prejudice and ignorance through stories about real people.

Interest Level:
Interest will run from very high (perhaps a group has recently visited a country overseas or is involved in advocacy related to an issue in the country) to very low (you’re their monthly speaker because the person to talk about fly fishing couldn’t come).
You can increase that interest level through your manner of presentation. Avoid being a “talking head.” Use all the senses in your presentation, if possible: sights, sounds, smells, tactile objects, taste. Think BIG! You are sharing with a group, so use a voice bigger than for conversation, pictures BIG enough for all to see, music loud enough for all to hear.

People are interested in real experiences. Their interest will be piqued if you tell a story. They can learn facts and figures from *Time* magazine. Tell a compelling story that focuses on human interest. Remember, your audience is friendly. Most of your listeners will be engaged in what you are sharing and they’ll be interested to hear what mission work their church offerings support.

**Media Options:**
Put a bold and colorful face on mission. Bring images of mission into the room. Consider using one or more of the following:
- PowerPoint
- DVD/video – Global Ministries has many videos for your use
- Large photos

**Displays:**
The Mission Interpretation offices in Cleveland and Indianapolis are happy to provide you with quantities of resources to distribute, and a portable display board. The portable display is yours to keep and take from location to location.

Remember when setting up a display that the key is to make it visually interesting. Use large format pictures or type; lots of color and objects as well as one- or two-dimensional materials. You know a picture is worth a thousand words, and two or three well-chosen pictures can tell your story. Have brochures nearby for your audience to take home to read and learn at their leisure. You will find a complete list of resources available to you from Cleveland or Indianapolis along with instructions on ordering in Appendix G-1.

**Use of other props:**
Help your audience experience life in another country. Letting someone try on a hat or cloak, taste a new food (maybe prepare it!), or play with a special puppet can make your presentation more intimate and memorable. Use actual articles to support your stories and descriptions.

- Use large images and objects so all can see. Remember, the group could be as large as 500 at a region or conference gathering.
- Handouts: a good handout will ideally catch the eye. But even a simple photocopy can do the trick.
- Artifacts
- Clothing, toys, household items
- Food to taste or a recipe to try
- Music – consider providing a cassette of music for the gathering time.
- Charts, posters or other graphics
- Activities: one missionary ecology worker performs three interactive experiments with her interpretation groups. She puts the experiments about water, earth and air into the context of
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God’s creation and our call to be good stewards of creation.
- A global resource list and order form are in the Appendix.

Components of a Mission Presentation

Your presentation should include an introduction, your message, time for questions, and a closing. Here are ideas to consider as you prepare your personalized presentation.

Suggested Presentation Outline:

**Introduction** (5–10 minutes)
- Prayer (if the group hasn’t already shared in a moment of prayer)
- Scripture
- Introduce yourself and Global Ministries
- Thank the group for their support
- Country information
- Song
- Language lesson

**Your Message** (15-25 minutes)
Your message is the heart of your presentation and is your opportunity to teach and witness. It provides a springboard for the questions and discussion later in your presentation. Remember to use one or more of the following to help convey your message in an interesting manner:
- Stories
- PowerPoint
- DVD/video
- Artifacts, clothing, toys or household items, food
- Activities
- Large photos
- Handouts

**Question and Answer Period** (Open-ended, usually 10-20 minutes)

**Closing** (usually 5-10 minutes)

Appendix G-2 has a Presentation Checklist which you can use as a reminder of the various components of your presentation. In Appendices G-3, G-4, and G-5 you will find many useful presentation ideas for stories, hymns, prayers, mission moments and Sunday School for adults and children.

A very important service to explore and share is the Global Ministries website, outlined in Appendix G-6.
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Introduction:

Prayer:
Try to link the prayer to the realities and involvement of the local congregation in global mission.

Scripture:
Some possibilities to consider include:
James 2: 14  Luke 10 (Good Samaritan)

Name:
Introduce yourself and explain that you’re a Ministries and Mission Interpreter serving Global Ministries, a covenanted ministry of the United Church of Christ and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Remember to wear a name tag.

Partner:
Share that Global Ministries works hand-in-hand with partner churches and organizations. They are vital to our work. Explain the idea of partnership and how Global Ministries only sends missionaries on the invitation of our partners.

Thank You:
Remind the group that our work is made possible through their financial gifts to the Disciples Mission Fund (Disciples of Christ) and Our Church’s Wider Mission (United Church of Christ). Put this in the context of a thank you for their support. Hand out Global Ministries bookmarks and lift up the information on the back. Thank them for their support to OGHS (UCC) and Week of Compassion (Disciples).

Country Information:
Use a BIG map. Ask questions to get members of the group participating. If Global Ministries placemats are at each seat, you might ask them to lift their plates and find a specific country on the map. Ask what countries are nearby. Help them to be interested and show that they know something. Affirm what they do know. Present small favors as prizes for questions answered correctly—make it fun and participatory. (Ask the Global Ministries Mission Interpretation offices for small items that might be used as prizes.)

Song:
Teach a simple global song. It can be in another language or English. Choose a hymn or chorus that captures the spirit of your presentation.

Language Lesson:
Teach the group how to say “hello,” “God is love,” “Jesus loves you,” or another word or phrase in a different language.
Your Message:

This is your opportunity to put a face on mission! Your presentation is an opportunity to tell stories of real people in mission through Global Ministries.

Use a written script or outline:
The discipline of preparing a script or outline helps organize your thoughts, and enables you to present your story in a coherent and flowing manner. Even if you don’t want to work from a script, think carefully about the time you will have available. Especially at the beginning of your interpretation time, writing out your entire presentation will help you clarify what you want to say or show.

Scriptural grounding:
You are doing God’s mission. Frame your presentation in scripture.

Topics to cover:
What do you want people to know about the people, the place, the life of the faith community, the issues and concerns? What points do you want to make? Where is God in all of this? Select an overall message or objective and a few sub-themes (e.g. daily life, worship, education).

Remember to use stories as often as possible. (A story may be actual, or a composite of stories of several people, made up to present a typical account of a person.) A story may present a truth even though it is not factual.

The basics:
Who, what, where, when, why and how. Consider how to touch upon each of the following topics using objects, words and pictures.

- Geography (Use a big map.)
- Global Ministries’ work, colleagues, and life – make it personal! (Use pictures.)
- Politics (Show country’s flag.)
- Religion and faith (Use photos. Set worship items on a display table.)
- Way of life – people, neighbors, demographics (Create a display area with artifacts, photos, articles of clothing, food and music.)
- Social situation: economy, medical, education, health and wealth demographics. Don’t limit yourself to the problems, but describe cultural achievements and the witness of the people of faith.
- Social analysis: help people understand that most of the world’s problems have a structural or systemic dimension. That is, people are not poor or hungry because they are lazy but because of economic/political systems which they feel powerless to control.
- Current events (newspaper articles.)
- Challenges.
- Joys and concerns.
- Support from One Great Hour of Sharing and Week of Compassion, if applicable.
Use laminated photos:

Mission Interpreters (MMIs) have been given a set of mission photos that have been laminated for viewing. Use presentation photos as a springboard for a story. In order to hold an audience’s attention when using a single image for a prolonged period of time, the image and your words must be packed with emotion and feeling.

Incorporate a PowerPoint presentation:
Plan your PowerPoint presentation well ahead of time. Make sure that the places where you will be speaking have the necessary equipment for your presentation.

Length: Keep your show under 20 minutes.

Write a script: This discipline helps organize your thoughts, and enables you to present your story in a coherent and flowing manner. It also respects the audience, showing you have carefully thought about your words and message. Write the script before you choose which pictures to use. Then use the pictures to illustrate your script.

One interpreter uses a method that spans several months, outlining key points:
- writing sections.
- rewriting the sections.
- putting the script together.
- balancing the content and making some additions.
- timing the script and deciding what to delete.
- completing the drafting process.
- deciding who will read which parts.
- preparing individualized versions of the script.
- selecting images to match the script.
- organizing the images alongside the script and making some alterations.
- printing out the script and assembling it in sheet protectors in a ring binder.
- practicing the presentation.

Gather and choose photos:
- Choose pictures to match your words.
- Think of photos as a helpful resource, not the main event.
- Take photos that will illustrate a life, work and setting.
- If in doubt, don’t show it!
- Don’t plan on using all your photos; use your best.
- Make sure you have a lot of close-ups of people, not just long range or group pictures.
- Include action photos.
- Consider including a map to help set the context.
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Photos are important for interpreting our work to churches:

• Some photos are available from the Global Ministries offices of Mission Interpretation. These are available on a CD. You may also use photos directly off the Global Ministries web site.
• PowerPoint templates are available through the offices of Mission Interpretation. These include a variety of colors and patterns that match the area brochures. Maps and the Global Ministries logo are also available.

Keep things moving:

• Limit your show to 80 images. Several visuals can be used to illustrate a single sentence!
• Don’t dwell on your pictures. The mind can absorb an image quickly. Six to ten screens per minute makes for a good pace (5-10 seconds maximum).
• Don’t be tempted to explain every photo or name everyone in the pictures. Remember, you have chosen the pictures to provide visual support for what you want to say in your narrative.
• If you wish to tell the story of each picture, limit your presentation to 5 pictures.

Question and Answer Time:
Your audience will like asking questions, ranging in degree of difficulty and complexity. Set aside time at the end of your presentation for questions, so that you won’t be interrupted throughout. Take all questions seriously and listen carefully. If children and youth are present, start with their questions first.

• Admit when you don’t know the answer. Suggest other sources of information.
• For questions about Global Ministries, direct people to the web site at <globalministries.org>
• Respect the wisdom within the group, and refer questions to others when they are able to respond helpfully.
• It is almost never a good idea to argue with someone who has differed with a point you have made. It is normally better to simply reaffirm that this is the experience that you have had and that in light of your Christian faith, this is what you feel it means.
• This is a good place to adjust time to fit your schedule. Look at the clock and announce to the group how much time is available for discussion time.
• Don’t let one person claim your attention. Call on several people.
• Remind the group that you’ll be available after the formal presentation for further discussion.
• Avoid generalizations. Speak for yourself and cite others.
• People may not want to hear about standing up for justice. It may frighten people to hear how the U.S. is responsible for conditions in other parts of the world. Remember: difficult messages can best be communicated by telling of people who are affected.

Closing:

• Stick to your closing time. Remember, people are time conscious.
• Handouts: now is a good time to distribute informational handouts including the general Global Ministries brochure and informational packets.
• Close with a brief illustration that restates the main point you are making. For example, one missionary uses this set of questions in his closing (told to him by a doctor from Bangladesh). It illustrates that we each do mission where we are, some in the U.S. and some in other countries, but always with the people with whom we find ourselves:
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What is the most important time in history?  (Now.)
What is the most important work that one can do? (The work at hand.)
Who is the most important person who has ever lived? (The person beside you.)

• Thank the group again for:
  This event.
  The mission work they do where they are; their work as missionaries in their own setting.

Clean-up:

You’ll be tired, but this is often the time when people’s interest is most piqued. You have taught them a lot and they’re interested in hearing more. Plan on staying at least 30 minutes after a presentation, so you don’t feel or look rushed.
Remember:
  • Pack up your display and supplies.
  • Collect any extra handouts to use again.
  • Collect names, addresses and e-mails of those who would like to hear more about your ministry and Global Ministries in general.
  • Thank the pastor and the program’s coordinator.

Connections and Follow-up

It is important that you take the yellow cards to all of your speaking engagements. The yellow cards provide an easy way for individuals to provide their contact information (mailing address and e-mail) so that they can be connected to Global Ministries. When they provide their e-mail address they will receive the weekly Global Ministries updates. Once a year we mail out an issue of our Global Ministries News. They will also receive two other mailings that will share about the work of Global Ministries and invite them to participate financially. Appendix G-7 is an Inquiry Follow-up grid which can be used to record specific inquiries so that the appropriate Global Ministries staff person can provide an answer to a question or information about a specific program. Thank you for facilitating these connections and gathering the yellow cards every opportunity you have.
Global Resources

Resources are free unless indicated
To order call 1-800-537-3394 (unless otherwise noted)

General Mission


Child Sponsorship: Connecting with the World Through a Child resource describes the Global Ministries’ Child Sponsorship Program, which is committed to supporting children at risk by providing a practical way for individuals and churches to extend a helping hand. BWMHTS
On the web at: http://globalministries.org/get-involved/child-sponsorship/

Foods Resource Bank – Share the Harvest brochure outlines a hands-on project to address world hunger. It is particularly appropriate for congregations in rural settings. Order by calling 866-822-8224 ext. 3204 or e-mail wcm@ucc.org.

Global Ministries - Reaching Out Globally in Mission brochure describes the shared mission ministry of the Division of Overseas Ministries, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), and Wider Church Ministries of the United Church of Christ worldwide. English: BWMGMB, Spanish: WCMBGS

Global Ministries Area brochures are each an overview of the issues and concerns in that area. They each include a map of the region and pictures of the programs that are supported through partners in the area. Please specify area when ordering.

Africa WCGMA
East Asia & the Pacific WCGMEA
Latin America & the Caribbean WCGMLA
Middle East & Europe WCGMME
Southern Asia WCGMSA

Global Ministries Bookmarks tell a short story of each region of Global Ministries’ work in 5 regions. Available in packs of 50 assorted brochures which include ten bookmarks of each region. WCMBK

Global Ministries on the Internet www.globalministries.org Go to the website for news, updates, staff listing, current missionaries, overseas openings, reports, and program information.

Global Ministries Placemats can be used as a table mat during a meal or a poster to decorate a bulletin board. Intergenerational learning activities are on the reverse side. Pack of 100. WCMMAT

Globalization: Faith and Economic Justice: Partners and Missionaries Reflect on Globalization
Edited by Global Education and Advocacy Team, this 71-page resource is a collection of reflections contributed in 2004 by Global Ministries’ partners and mission staff around the world. Organized by global region, the collection of both formal essays and brief commentary highlights a variety of perspectives on the impact of economic and cultural changes on communities worldwide. Also available online at www.globalministries.org Order by calling 866.822.8224, ext. 3220.


Special Giving Opportunities brochure invites you to consider how one person or congregation can make a difference in the world. Includes brief descriptions of projects and needs for each of the five Global Ministries regions of the world. WCMSGO. On the web at: http://globalministries.org/get-involved/special-giving-opportunities/
World AIDS Day Resources for education, worship and other World AIDS day activities. World AIDS Day resources available on the web at http://globalministries.org/resources/special-days/aids-day/


Missionary Relationships

Global Church Partnership Handbook is a step by step guide for congregations or committees to prepare a description of their church and its goals for a global partnership. It includes information on preparing the description and initiating contact for identifying a potential partner to formalizing the relationship. WCGCH. On the web at: http://globalministries.org/get-involved/church-to-church-partnerships/Revised-GCP-Handbook-for-web.doc

Missionary Relationships brochure describes opportunities for your congregation to gain a greater understanding of mission through planning visits and building relationships with missionaries. BWMMRP. On the web at: http://globalministries.org/get-involved/missionary-visits/

People in Mission brochure from the Global Ministries Mission Personnel Office provides an overview of types and lengths of mission assignments, the selection process, opportunities available, and quotations from current missionaries. WCMPM

Mission Travel

Living Stones Pilgrimage with the Christians of the Holy Land: A Guide is for visitors who want to share the thoughts and the life, witness and presence of those who now live in the troubled land of Israel and Palestine. Order by calling 866-822-8224 ext. 3230. $15.00

People-to-People Pilgrimages Program brochure describes the exciting trend of hands-on experiences in mission and offers initial steps to follow in organizing a successful group mission pilgrimage experience through Global Ministries. English: WCPPP, Spanish: WCPPS. On the web at: http://globalministries.org/mission/group-trips/

Planning Your Own Unique Trip to the Holy Land guide by Betty Jane Bailey aids in planning and preparing for a group trip to the Holy Land. Order by calling 866-822-8224 ext. 3230.

Worship & Education

Breads Around the World series includes hunger information, bread recipes, and worship resources from various regions of the world. Six editions available individually or as a set: Middle East, China, Caribbean, India, Africa and Chile. Available on the web, along with other World Communion Sunday resources, at www.globalministries.org/resources/special-days/WCS/

Cross Culture: A Collection of Global Sermons book expresses ways to learn from sermons preached from pulpits around the world. Order by calling 866-822-8224 ext. 3208 or e-mail wcm@ucc.org

Letters from Palestine is a collection of e-mail letters and journal entries by former Global Ministries missionaries Linda Ammons and John Worrell reflecting their eyewitness accounts of life in Israel and Palestine in the first years of the Oslo Accord. Order by calling 866-822-8224 ext. 3230. $4.00 + shipping.

What is Islam? essay provides an introduction to the religion of Islam, its adherents, and their beliefs, practices and demographic make-up, including recommended reading. Available on the web at http://www.globalministries.org/mee/resources/what-is-islam.html

Whose Land? Whose Promise? by Gary Burge addresses questions pertaining to Israel/Palestine with a special focus on the Palestinian Christian community. The author discusses history and theology as they relate to the current conflict. $25.00 16607
Children & Youth

**Bright Wings** is a 60-page book of collected artwork depicting the lives of Palestinian children from Rawdat El Zuhur primary school in East Jerusalem. **BWMBW** $14.00 including shipping.

**Child Sponsorship: Connecting with the World Through a Child** resource describes the Global Ministries’ Child Sponsorship Program, which is committed to supporting children at risk by providing a practical way for individuals and churches to extend a helping hand. **BWMHTS**


**Kids to Kids VBS Curriculum**
An educational experience to teach children, of all ages, about some of the mission work of Global Ministries as part of the expansion of Kids to Kids, a children’s mission program that gives children in North America opportunities to learn about and serve children from other parts of the world. Here you will find everything you need to create a memorable Vacation Bible School experience for your whole faith community. This curriculum is web-based so that it is available to all, free of charge! There is a cost of $10 for the Journey to India music CD. Currently available VBS Curriculum: Journey to India; Journey to Congo


**Multimedia**

**Coming to Say Goodbye: Stories of AIDS in Africa DVD** is a documentary produced by Maryknoll Productions about courageous people living with HIV/AIDS in Africa and about the church workers, medical professionals, social workers, and educators assist and support those affected. We are challenged to take up the role as global advocates in combating this devastating disease. **WCMAAD**

**Connecting Threads Around the World Through Global Ministries DVD** contains the 7 Connecting Threads videos plus a 7-week study guide so that you can lead a Sunday School class on global mission. Discover how the tapestry of partnership is making a difference! Watch videos online at: [http://globalministries.org/resources/multimedia-resources/videos/](http://globalministries.org/resources/multimedia-resources/videos/) or order **WCMCT**

**Included on Connecting Threads Around the World DVD:**
- **Connecting Threads: Partners in Mission** (Overview of Global Ministries)
- **Connecting Threads: Beneath African Skies**
- **Connecting Threads: Against the Current, Toward the Light** (Southern Asia)
- **Connecting Threads: Out of the Shadows, Into the Sun** (Latin America and the Caribbean)
- **Connecting Threads: Lilies Among Thorns** (Middle East and Europe)
- **Connecting Threads: Mountains in the Wind** (East Asia and the Pacific)
- **God’s Surprise: The New Faces of Mission** (Missionary Service)

**Video Resources on the Web** available at: [http://globalministries.org/resources/multimedia-resources/videos/](http://globalministries.org/resources/multimedia-resources/videos/)
Disciples Resources

**Discover the Disciples brochure** is a general description of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). The churches mission is: to be and to share the good news of Jesus Christ, witnessing, loving, and serving from the doorsteps to the end of the earth. To order, call 317-713-2575 or email dom@disciples.org

**Week of Compassion Resources** share how WOC provides emergency and long-term assistance to people in the aftermath of hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, droughts, civil war and other natural and human catastrophes. WOC responds with help, hope and hospitality to people who have been uprooted and displaced from their homelands by war, environmental catastrophe, famine and natural disaster. www.weekofcompassion.org/

**Disciple Mission Fund** is a ministry by which congregations, regions, institutions of higher education and general units share in the mission of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). This ministry is a faithful witness of receiving, caring and giving in Christian community. Disciples Mission Fund receives contribution from more than 2,800 Disciples congregations to support the worldwide mission of the church. This is done through annual contributions to Disciples Mission Fund and through Special Offerings received at Easter, Pentecost, Thanksgiving and Christmas. www.disciplesmissionfund.org/

www.disciples.org The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) website is a resource where many questions about the Disciples can be answered, or to gain more information and stories about Disciple members, congregations, Regions and National offices.

**Kids to Kids** - Disciples Kids-real life... making choices... taking chances...living out the gospel...and making the world a better place to live! With KIDS to KIDS, you make the decisions. What to do? It's up to YOU! It is all about Kids helping Kids. To download special Kid to Kids project both global and homeland, visit www.homelandministries.org/FamilyandChildren/KidsToKids/index.htm

**Woman-to-Woman Worldwide**
Woman-to-Woman is an opportunity to personalize mission in the life of congregations and regions. Woman-to-Woman responds to the call for church women to experience solidarity with one another, to affirm the unity of the church in Jesus Christ and to join the common struggle for justice and peace in the world today. These international, ecumenical and personal experiences encourage faithful women to identify and support their diverse ministries. For resources visit: www.homelandministries.org/Women/womantowoman.htm

United Church of Christ Resources

**Good Coffee for a Good Cause** – the UCC Coffee Project Packet includes brochures, order forms, and explanatory material about the UCC’s partnership with Equal Exchange, a purveyor of fairly traded coffee, tea, and chocolate. On the web at www.ucc.org/justice/coffee-project/ or call 866-822-8224 ext. 3714.

**Health and Wholeness Advocacy Brochure**
This brochure describes the mission and resources on lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender ministries and HIV/AIDS through the Health and Wholeness Advocacy Office. WCMHIB

**In Mission: A Calendar of Prayer for the UCC** has daily entries that describe mission partnerships in the U.S. and around the world. www.ucc.org/worship/calendar/

**Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender brochure** describes the LGBT mission and resources of the UCC through the Health and Wholeness Advocacy office. WCMLGC

**O God, Tender and Just**
This set of resources includes reflections, resources, essays, Bible Study, and liturgy in response to September 11, 2001. 15341
APPENDIX G-1

One Great Hour of Sharing Annual Report
This resource illustrates how your One Great Hour of Sharing gifts are used for building sustainable communities, emergency relief, refugee resettlement, and disaster response. SCOSOGHS9

One Great Hour of Sharing – Giving Help, Hope and Life includes materials and activities to promote this Lenten offering that supports programs internationally for building sustainable communities, emergency relief and rehabilitation, and refugee advocacy and resettlement, as well as domestic and international disaster preparedness and response. www.ucc.org/oghs/

UCC National Disaster Ministries brochure provides information about preparedness for and response to natural and technological disasters in the United States and Puerto Rico. WCMNDM

Volunteer Ministries Brochure describes the Partners in Service Program, Mission Trip Opportunities, Service Day programs, and Leadership Training Events. WCVM

Wider Church Ministries brochure describes how WCM works with conferences, associations, and congregations to develop relationships with partners nationally and internationally, seeking to lift up the needs of our world and uniting in a common mission of service. WCMB

UCC Health & Wholeness Advocacy

Health and Wholeness Advocacy Brochure
This brochure describes the mission and resources on lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender ministries and HIV/AIDS through the Health and Wholeness Advocacy Office. WCMHIB

HIV/AIDS Awareness Brochure Sampler cover a variety of issues and concerns and is excellent for quick reference or as part of an HIV/AIDS education and prevention display. WCMHIS

HIV/AIDS Website: www.ucc.org/hivaids

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender brochure describes the LGBT mission and resources of the UCC through the Health and Wholeness Advocacy office. WCMLGC

Why Give Out Condoms? tools for HIV/AIDS education and prevention are produced by the United Church of Christ AIDS/HIV Network (UCAN) and share the values behind condom distribution and the related policy statement developed by UCAN. Card: WCMCC, Poster: WCMCP

Why Worry About HIV/AIDS? A special UC News resource with information on HIV/AIDS and related stories from UCC congregations and Global Ministries. WCMWHY
**UCC Volunteer Ministries**

**Mission Trip Opportunities** lists work/study mission trips for groups who wish to engage in volunteer service in the United States and Puerto Rico. [www.ucc.org/ministries/volunteer](http://www.ucc.org/ministries/volunteer) or order WCMT11

**Partners in Service** booklet describes opportunities through the UCC for individuals and couples in short- and long-term volunteer placements in the United States and Puerto Rico. WCMP51

**Volunteer Ministries Brochure** describes the Partners in Service Program, Mission Trip Opportunities, Service Day programs, and Leadership Training Events. WCVM

**UCC National Disaster Ministries**

**Disaster Response On the Web** [http://www.ucc.org/disaster/index.html](http://www.ucc.org/disaster/index.html) provides current information and updates on UCC Disaster Ministries involvement in the United States and Puerto Rico.

**UCC National Disaster Ministries** brochure provides information about preparedness for and response to natural and technological disasters in the United States and Puerto Rico. WCMNDM

**The Silent Disaster: People of Faith Respond to Technological Disaster** manual is for communities in to identify what might be a technological disaster, and includes how to organize a faith-based task force. Order from WCM National Disaster Ministries, (216) 736-3216.
Resource Order Form

Please print clearly

Ship Resources to:

Name ________________________________________________________________

Congregation __________________________________________________________________

Address ______________________________________________________________________

City ________________________________ State ______________ Zip ___________________

Phone ____________________________ E-Mail _____________________________________

Please send me:

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Order by calling 1-800-537-3394
or
FAX this page to: 216-736-2206
Presentation Checklist
Components of the Presentation to Consider

Pre-presentation
- Ambiance created in room
- Display table and visuals
- Equipment set-up

Introduction of Presentation
- Effective opening and personal introduction
- Define link to Global Ministries
- Expression of thanks for giving
- Basic mission information
- Use of creativity in setting the tone
- Summary of presentation outline

Body of Presentation
- Clear overall theme
- Development of a few sub-themes
- Scriptural grounding
- Introduction to a culture, i.e. political and social situations, religious climate, life of the church
- Joys and concerns
- Stories to illustrate mission
- Use of multi-media
- Audience involvement
- Organization and preparedness
- Enthusiasm
- Questions and answers

Closing of Presentation
- Fit within time limits
- Restated main points
- Closing illustration
- Use of handouts
- Challenge for involvement
- Availability for further questions

Other ideas: ____________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________
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_______________________________________________________________________
Stories from Missionaries
These stories may appear in any of a number of places: www.globalministries.org; the monthly mission bulletin story; the UCC Calendar of Prayer; the back of Sunday bulletins; conference and region newsletters and stewardship materials. Samples appear in the appendix.

Letter Elements that will be helpful to your Ministries and Mission Interpretation plan:

- Letters and stories are specific, concrete, incarnational (that is, how can God’s spirit and word be told through the letter). Statistics come to life as they are told through the story of one child, one sick person, one incident.

- Mission letters help the church understand both the joys and challenges of living out the Christian faith in different countries. What does it mean for the missionary and what does it mean for the Christian community in the specific country? Through these letters missionaries communicate the gospel.

- Letters may address questions such as: Where is the Spirit of God at work in this country? What are the most significant signs of hope that we see here? What people’s voices will probably never be heard in the USA/Canada unless I share them in my letters?

- Letters sometimes show the relationship between the specific situations of joy and distress in which people live and the structures of justice and injustice which cause them, e.g., the policies of international lending agencies result in greater suffering for the poor.

The following stories, mission moments and prayers come from Global Ministries missionaries past and present:

Global Resources for Worship and Learning

PRAYERS

Korea Easter Sunday
Happy Easter! Christ is risen! On this day, one of the most sacred in the Christian calendar, we feel a connectedness with other people of faith across the globe. In February of last year, the National Council of Churches in Korea (NCCK) and the Korea Christian Federation (KCF) in the North, connected at an ecumenical meeting in Germany and agreed to pray a “Common Easter Prayer of the Churches of South and North Korea” on Easter Sunday 2008. They prayed for reconciliation, for healing, for the light of Jesus Christ to shine through every darkness, every pain, every suffering all over the world. Their prayer, written by members of both groups, included these words:

O God, Lord of our history as well as of our nation! Today, we praise you, Lord, who have risen as Eternal Life through the struggle for righteousness, between lies and truth, at the fork of the path of dying or living. O Lord of Peace! We live under the shadow of threats by foreign power; our tears, sighs, wrath and quarrels, all prevail under this shadow. Those without belief and hope say that our nation’s unity is beyond our accomplishing and beyond our waiting. Christians of both North and South, however, believe in the unity of our 70 million people. We believe we can find reconciliation and peace through mutual exchange and
cooperation. When we see through the eyes of Resurrection and Life, we confess that our nation already lives with peace and reunification. O Lord, Help us, churches of North and South, sisters and brothers of North and South, to achieve resurrection itself with one accord. Help us to enjoy a life of peace through our belief and action. [For the full text of the prayer, visit the Global Ministries website.]

We can add our own voices in this Common Easter Prayer, to reconcile all the corners of our own world – personally, professionally, locally, globally – in all the ways in which we foster aggression, hatred and intolerance. Heal us, O Lord; bring us to our own Easter morning where we can roll away the stones in our hearts and find the risen Christ.

**Chile**
God of earth, sky, and ocean, the generations to come have a right to know the same flora and fauna as our ancestors. Remind us that we are keepers of your creation.

**Tibet**
We ask, God of all Nations, that all your children have the courage to build community where there was once only barriers, to act in communion to build a world at peace, and to encourage calm and reconciliation in place of frenzy and division. We ask this in the name of your son, Jesus Christ, who broke down barriers, preached peace, and taught forgiveness.

**Japan**
O God of Love/Into a chalice, we have poured our stories of the wounds of war/Into this cup, you have dropped your tears of compassion/But also your breath, your grace, your power to transform./In moments when we dance on the edge of despair/Help us remember this cup of stories and longing/And drink strength from new global bonds of solidarity/Fuel us to be co-authors to break open a new moment in history/And chart a path to abolish war forever.

**World AIDS Day**
We gather together in worship, O God. We pray for your presence with us as we lift up those who are living with HIV/AIDS. We remember those who have died. Be in our midst. Inspire and empower us that we may respond with compassion and in solidarity. Together, may we be a healing force in this world. Help us, with you, to bring an end to HIV and all that enables its spread near and far. [from “A World AIDS Day Community Worship Service”]

**India**
Some people believe that everything happens in Divine right time. A group of hospital workers in Mungeli, India would probably agree after their experience of delivering a set of premature twins at Christian Hospital. The staff and Dr. Anil Henry, Acting Director at the hospital, were expecting an incubator and other supplies which were being shipped and donated by supporters. Since shipments have a way of being intercepted and diverted, Dr. Henry and a group of workers transported the packages through customs and all the checkpoints along the way. They arrived at the hospital mid-day and that evening a woman came to the hospital in an urgent situation, pregnant with twins. The babies were delivered, several weeks premature, and were saved because of that incubator – enfolded by the love of donors, hospital workers, a stubborn, persistent doctor and a God who delivered what was needed, in Divine right time!
Laos
We pray, O God, today and every day, for women the world over who, in many places, are undervalued, held hostage to ignorance and starved physically, emotionally, intellectually and spiritually. Hold them close, God, until their chains are broken.

Sudan
Compassionate God, we can no longer claim ignorance about the plight of the people of Sudan. We can no longer wait for someone else to step into the fray. Give us the strength and courage we need to offer protection from the storm and help clear a path to the road back home for those with no place to hide.

Honduras
We all have our defining moments. The moments that define us, however, may not be the ones we choose, but the ones that choose us. Help us to make each moment count, O God, and to remember to count our blessings as gifts from you. Help us to remember that those who have less are not less. We pray this in the name of your son, Jesus Christ, who lived among people who had little but gave so much.

Bangladesh
Creator God, as we grow and mature into the creation you envisioned, we become more certain that it is community which makes us strong. Through our collective hopes, dreams and endeavors, we push through the barriers of time and distance, race and economics, gender and religion. We pray that we continue to widen the circle of your limitless inclusion until we are all truly one.

MISSION MOMENTS

Water for all
There are places in the world where faith is all the people have to survive. With your family, fill the kitchen sink at home with water. Go outside and sweep up everything in the nearest gutter for a distance of three yards. Mix what you swept up into the sink water. Ask your group who would like to taste the water. Now, imagine surviving on this water for a day. This is the reality of life for one in every six people in the world – every day.

Lesotho
Prayers and scripture quotes can lose their impact until we encounter them in a different context. Mark Behle, missionary to Lesotho, had this experience with the 23rd Psalm as interpreted by Mrs. Semuli, a Lesotho woman. Sheep and shepherds are a common sight in Lesotho, so the image of God as shepherd strikes a familiar chord. The shepherd must find food for the sheep, protect them and care for the flock when injured or sick. Knowing this, Mrs. Semuli observes, the sheep are always relaxed in the presence of the shepherd – they have no worries or fears. Are we good sheep for our shepherd, Behle wonders? Do we trust God to watch over us or do we panic like the Israelites in the wilderness?

India
The Lucy Perry Noble School, founded 115 years ago by Congregational missionaries in Madurai, India, was based on the belief that education could empower and improve the lives of India’s poorest children. The school, now administered by our partner, the Church of South India, receives government support to help pay teachers’ salaries and provide books and meals for the 400 girls who board and attend classes. The facility, however, must be maintained by the
Church and school administrators. On a visit to India in 2006, a UCC couple from New England was pleased to witness the inspirational work still being done at the school, but found the school building in disrepair. For two years classes were being held in hallways and outdoors after the main building had to be demolished. Total cost for a new building was $86,000. With the Church of South India committed to contributing $13,000, the New England couple set about raising the remaining $73,000. By January 30, 2007, donations totaled $54,038 — still short nearly $19,000 of the projected price to complete the project. The UCC couple, who wish to remain anonymous, agreed to match any donations from Global Ministries’ constituents received by the deadline of March 31, 2007. The goal was met, with gifts continuing to pour in through the end of April. With the implementation of the building project turned over to our partners in service, the new Lucy Perry Noble School will house six classrooms, a library, school offices and an internet/computer lab.

**Turkey**

Even after living in the Middle East for 28 years, Global Ministries missionary Alison Stendahl is still struck by hearing church bells ringing in one ear and the call to prayer resonating in the other. The mixture of the Christian and Muslim world makes her appreciate the complexity of the society in which she lives. Two events made Alison especially aware of this complexity – celebrating the Near East School of Theology’s 75th anniversary and attending the Week of Christian Unity’s closing ceremony. Both events represented a calm inside the storm. NEST’s joyful celebration and hospitable atmosphere made it almost possible to forget the explosions and violence occurring outside the church walls. The ecumenical fellowship of Protestant, Orthodox and Catholic standing side by side, praying and enjoying one another’s traditions for the Week of Christian Unity was a sight to behold. These events are a reminder that our faith may be the only hope that carries us through the darkest of nights.

**China**

An opportunity turned to tragedy and loss for many families in the Henan Province of China. In the mid-1990s, a pharmaceutical company offered $5 for samples of residents’ blood. Many people participated. To hold costs down, the company tragically re-used needles. The result was a devastating rise in HIV/AIDS cases. Parents died leaving sick children without care. Many were too ill and weak to work their fields and so were unable to support their families. Global Ministries and their partner, The Zhecheng Succor Society, started a small interest-free loan program to assist these families. Pigs and goats are purchased and the meat and milk sold at market. Donations through Global Ministries have provided 400 families with goats and 40 with pigs. It will be a long time before these families can recover from this health and financial disaster, but this program is having a positive effect, with 93 percent of funds going toward the purchase of animals.

**Turkey**

The Hagia Irene – Holy Peace – Church in Istanbul was the backdrop for an unusual communal event which Ken and Betty Frank, missionaries to Turkey, hope will inspire more acts of peace and reconciliation. The church, on this occasion, was being used as a concert hall for two groups. One, a 35-member Greek men’s choir, sang a cappella hymns from Greek orthodox services. The second, a group of Islamic mystics, performed their Sema ceremony of music, poetry and dance. The Islamic group consisted of men and women who danced their sacred ritual representing the infinite cycles of nature and God’s blessings on the earth. They were joined by the Greek men’s choir who blended their chant with the rhythm of the Muslim dancers. The combination was breathtaking – Turk and Greek, Christian and Muslim, voice and dance, melded together in a place of Holy Peace – a hope-filled moment in time, within a sense of the sacred.
APPENDIX G-3

Brazil
Even when every door is closed to us, God will make a way for us to become who we are meant to be. And so, when Teresinha – a young girl from Brazil – heard that a rural school would be opening near her small town, her heart sang with joy. At last she would be able to learn to read and write, a privilege her mother never had. But her father, illiterate and old-fashioned, refused to give his permission, shouting that there was no reason for his daughter to learn such things – there were enough domestic and farm duties to keep her busy. Senor Antonio ruled his family with an iron hand. Schools were rare in rural Brazil many years ago and girls were not allowed to attend. The only place that Teresinha and her sisters were allowed to go outside the home was to church. Their father led them on the three mile walk to Mass – the girls in long sleeves and skirts with their heads covered – unable to show any part of their bodies. Teresinha made her decision on one of those long walks to church. She had witnessed the fate of her two older sisters – one, forced to marry a neighboring farmer at the age of 15, and the other, who ran away from home at 14 after being beaten by their father for cutting her hair. After Mass, Teresinha told the priest she wanted to become a nun. The priest secured her father’s permission to take Teresinha to the convent in the city. There, she learned to read and write. During these years as a novice she became an assistant teacher in a local grammar school and after four years, met her future husband, Darci, fell in love, married and had a family. Today, Teresinha has but one paper diploma – in the Course for the Training of Community Health Educators – a program sponsored by Global Ministries and nurtured by missionary Barbara de Souza. Teresinha’s self-esteem as a woman, able to be an active member of the community besides being a wife, mother and now grandmother, is a victory example for women. Teresinha knows the value of education, community participation and employment outside the home as a woman’s right.

STORIES

Japan
The Asian Rural Institute (ARI) of Japan is flourishing, and its founder, Reverend Dr. Toshihiro Takami, credits volunteers as a key ingredient to ARI’s success. Working alongside staff and participants, volunteers give their time, talent and support to the mission of ARI – building a just and peaceful society through the training of rural community leaders. ARI achieves its goal by sharing resources and abilities in farm management, food preservation and community leadership. Volunteers have come from all over the globe including Germany, Korea, Spain and USA. Work Camp groups come from churches, boy scout troops and universities, elementary, mid-high and high schools. The camps allow these volunteers to interact with a multi-cultural community, gain a broader world perspective and become more personally involved in and aware of how the food they eat is grown.

Philippines
The Spirit of God is active in the Philippines – a known and living reality. Nancy Molin Longatan, a long term volunteer serving the United Church of Christ in the Philippines, experiences the power of the Spirit in rural churches there and on the shores of small fishing villages as well. She witnessed a group of fishermen pulling in a net full of squid, struggling to walk the net up the beach with backstraps attached to their bodies. Soon, they were joined by young village boys who added their strength to the haul. Together they pulled the net up the beach, securing their catch. In churches, Nancy sees this same community struggle. Just as in churches everywhere, the budget discussions involve committee memberships, hymnals and allocating funds. Pastors struggle to divide “the catch” reconciling the needs of families with the demands of the call of God. We are blessed to have brothers and sisters like these.
Haiti
Andrew played no small role in the miracle of feeding the five thousand, says Rev. Sandra Gourdet, Global Ministries’ Executive for Africa, and former missionary to Haiti. So it was no coincidence that the name Andrew Theological Seminary was chosen for an institution that transforms despair and poverty into hope and prosperity. The miracle of the seminary, under the auspices of the National Spiritual Council of Haitian churches, has been in planting seeds in the minds of a few pastors who then have nurtured and transformed the lives of thousands. Rev. Gourdet holds Andrew Seminary up as a living symbol of how the five thousand can still be fed today.

Ecuador
Changing lives and empowering people to be in control of their own destiny is part of what micro-enterprise projects strive to accomplish. Fedice, a program that serves women in the Andes in Ecuador, is succeeding in their goal with the help of the Illinois South Conference’s Ecuador Partnership Committee. Women from the village of Yugsiche Alto wanted to purchase milk cows of high genetic quality which allows for increased milk production and processing cheese and yogurt as well. Fedice pledged $10,000 to the project and the Ecuador Partnership Committee agreed to fund $5,000 of that pledge. This milk and dairy product enterprise significantly improves the standard of living for these women and their families. It also generates a feeling of accomplishment, self-respect and hope.

Chile
With, as she puts it, her feet firmly planted on the earth and her hands stretched towards heaven, Global Ministries missionary to Chile Elena Huegel celebrates the gathering place of faith and restoration that the Shalom Center continues to be with a shout of “¡Gloria a Dios!” The people who visit the center and experience bible study, workshops and the welcome of the Chilean community are forever changed. Maggie Schmidt, an 18 year old from Massachusetts, said that the most important gift she received was knowledge of herself. This knowledge allowed her to feel more comfortable with herself which, in turn, made her feel closer to God. For Mercedes Cadena of Mazatlan, Mexico, every bible study and workshop cleared away her doubts and fears. What she learned at the Shalom Center was that even great leaders get tired and feel as if they want to quit. Mercedes wanted to stay at the Shalom Center, but knew in her heart that it is now her responsibility to spread the shalom she experienced to others. Kaitlyn Beaulac had her faith restored while in Chile. The 20-year old from Massachusetts said that for the first time in a long time she found God again. Jose Alvarez, a 17-year old from El Bosque, Chile, relived his most beautiful moment from his time at the Shalom Center. He walked the path to the lookout over the waterfall and felt a peace that he could not explain. Jose said it filled him and made him weep. What he has taken with him from the Shalom Center is not simple memories – but peace – the true peace that comes with and in God. Whatever their reasons for coming to the Shalom Center, these young searchers came away with a wisdom born of deep connection to the sacred. We can all join Elena Huegel in celebrating the spiritual bonds that are stronger than the power of destruction, distance or the chaos of violence.

India
Widening our circle of community is one way we live out our Christian faith. In India, Global Ministries has partnered with the Unemployed Young People’s Association (UYPA) to help some of the most disenfranchised – those that are poor and physically challenged – to gain confidence, training and employment. Some UYPA programs are tailored specifically to the needs of women and girls because their gender further isolates them and adds to the challenges they face. Through the efforts of UYPA, students are able to earn trade certificates – a
government requirement for employment – in service jobs such as tutoring, care of the elderly and electronic repair. A two-year course costs $400 to provide the training necessary for a student to earn a decent living.

**Timor**

There is an oil industry in Timor which is helping to increase some small towns’ local economy. It’s not fuel oil but coconut oil being processed and sold through a program administered by a group of Canossian sisters in Baucau. Global Ministries volunteer Tom Liddle brought women from Triloka to learn about the project and to help them buy two processing machines so they can begin their own oil production. USAID is also helping the micro credit venture to succeed.

**Laos**

If you ever think that the actions of one person can’t amount to anything, consider the story of Mr. Khamvanh Phengmany in Laos. More than ten years ago, he took some broken tables and chairs from Donkoi School, located across the street from his house, to mend them. Instead of tackling this task on his own, he taught Grade 5 students how to repair the furniture. His action prompted a donation of hammers and nails for the project, which, in turn, inspired the Donkoi Children Development Center. The program operated out of Mr. Phengmany’s home for two years until others were so impressed with the program’s methods and activities that a decision was made to build a children’s center. Mr. Phengmany is still a carpenter, still nurtures children, still helps supervise the work of the center. How appropriate that a carpenter is again a role model – a humble, caring man, for others to follow.

**Congo**

Empowering women with economic skills is a goal of the Foundation Lucie Otaenga (FLO), a private non-governmental organization in Lotumbe, Democratic Republic of Congo. The foundation is the brainchild of Lucy Hobgood-Brown and Anne Hobgood-Zolnor, daughters of former Congo missionaries Ben and Betsy Hobgood and a family friend Betsy Brill. Part of the program began in 2006 with the purchase of two sewing machines and two pairs of scissors to initiate the Center for Training in Cutting and Sewing (CFCC). After one year, the Center grew to 10 sewing machines, 10 pairs of scissors, five irons, 10 chairs, a wooden wardrobe, spare parts and accessories and boasted four program graduates. The women who completed the program were encouraged to purchase a sewing machine on credit so that they might start their own business and put their skills and training to good use. It has not been an easy road but Sandra Gourdet, Africa executive for Global Ministries and former missionary in the Democratic Republic of Congo, says that Global Ministries is committed to empowering women with employment and other skills in the region. Mrs. Chantal Befeko Bolingo, president of FLO also has experienced the difficulties of the program, citing lack of permanent work space, insufficient material and lack of incentives to offer budding seamstresses as major problems. But there have been successes as well. The sale of a number of completed projects, including dresses, trousers, curtains and blouses has allowed the center to renew its stock and pay the personnel.

**Botswana**

When was the last time you were surprised by God? God appears in ways we never expect but maybe during our times of distress, we stop looking and listening for God. Jim and Jayanthi Wilson, Global Ministries missionaries in Botswana, have known times when giving up seemed to be the only answer. Jayanthi experienced such a time when finances and leadership were in crisis at Sedibeng – a training center for disadvantaged youth and women where she worked. Then, unexpectedly, a call came from someone opening a restaurant who remembered the good accomplished at Sedibeng. Jayanthi was able to contact some former students who were then
hired to work in the restaurant. Their hope was restored and Jayenthi found, once again, that her patience and openness were rewarded.

South Africa
When we think of the parable of the wheat and weeds many of us identify the weeds as evil in the world that stifies the good among us. Could the weeds also symbolize our own weaknesses that prevent us from growing to our potential? Or perhaps our own limitations prevent us from seeing the seeds of wheat in others. Carla Giger, a Global Mission Intern serving South Africa in missionary relationship with the Missouri Mid-South Conference, experienced this kind of gospel lesson in her encounter with a little boy, Thokozanie. Although he is one of the smallest and youngest at the aftercare program, Thokozanie challenges his classmates with his bullying behavior. It would be easy to label Thokozanie as the “weed” if it had not been for one particular God-incident that made Carla see things differently. The class was busy doing a craft project – crayon rubbings – a task which reveals a shape beneath the top layer of paper when a crayon is rubbed over it. Carla had been dreading this part of the day, expecting that Thokozanie would disrupt everyone with his behavior. Instead, he was totally involved in the task, concentrating on the shape that was becoming clearer as he worked with the crayon. And then, Thokozanie began to sing. He started with “Jesus Loves the Little Children” in Zulu, and then had all the children singing “Jesus Loves Me”. In that moment, Carla saw the seeds of wheat in Thokozanie and God’s image beneath the surface of a little boy.

Kenya
Going green can produce some green. That is what members of First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Aiken, South Carolina found when they decided to conserve on paper products and use the money saved for mission. After reading about the Tumaini Children’s Home in Kenya, a group of ten church women – the St. Andrew Women’s Guild – came up with a plan to substitute cloth napkins and towels for the paper kind, collect the money they saved from not using disposables and donate the money to the children’s home. At the end of one year, they were able to donate $100 to the children of Tumaini from their collective “paper towel” money. A mustard seed of an idea that can grow from congregation to congregation.

South Africa
The stable where Jesus was born may not have been the accommodations that Mary and Joseph expected, but they were warm and dry and safe from harm at the hands of Herod. Inanda Seminary, a mission high school for black African girls in Durban, South Africa, provided refuge for a family from Zimbabwe who escaped the tyranny of President Mugabe. The father of this family was a leader in the opposition party and was slain in front of his two sons. The mother, a math teacher, left everything behind to make a new life for her four children in South Africa. Once hired by the seminary, she and her family were reunited and, through the support of Global Ministries and other donors, the children were outfitted for school and their home was equipped with essentials. May we all welcome the stranger in our midst and provide a haven from the storm.

Palestine
The waters of the Jordan, where John the Baptist anointed Jesus, are not accessible to many who live in the West Bank. Some 215,000 West Bank Palestinians are without a network of running water. Marla Schrader, missionary to Palestine and a resident of occupied territories for ten years, says that Israel leaves Palestinians with less than 20% of their own water resources, siphoning water through wells and diagonal drilling. After acquiring the water through these tactics, Mekorot, the Israeli water company, sells the water back to Palestinians at higher prices.
than what is charged Israeli citizens. Nearly half the population of the West Bank lives under the poverty line making the cost of water a heavy financial burden. When will justice roll like water and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream?

**France**

God will find you – wherever you are in the world. When God is ready, you will be ready, too. Tim Rose, a missionary formerly with the Reformed Church of France, met Thomas in prison where Tim was a prison chaplain and Thomas was a drug trafficker. This was Thomas’ second time in prison. But this time, God was ready for Thomas and over discussions of faith, family and the future, Tim and Thomas became close. One year later, Thomas was released from prison and asked for two things – one, to be baptized and, two, for Tim to be his Godfather. Tim is glad to say that Thomas now has a steady job and a wonderful fiancée. Thomas was found in prison, perhaps at one of the lowest points in his life. God found him there, in the silence, and with outstretched arms, God welcomed Thomas into his new life.

**Poland**

Early in 2008, Doug and Liz Searles, long-time Global Ministries missionaries, began what they call a faithful journey towards new horizons, casting their nets in uncharted waters. The Searles felt called to a new ministry to train leadership and laity with the Evangelical Reformed Church in Poland. Fewer than 1% of Poles are Protestant, and in the post-Soviet era, ERC churches there have struggled not only to recover but to grow spiritually and in number. To accomplish this goal, the church leadership asked for a partnership with Global Ministries and the Presbyterian Church, USA. Initially, Doug and Liz will train others to work with small group development, church music and English language teachers. In the future, they hope to form an exchange, connecting those that sent them to Poland with those being served. This connection will complete a circle of hope made by throwing wide our arms and opening our hands and hearts to the ERC in Poland.
International Resources for Worship
Bibliography

Compiled by the Rev. Karen Farthing
This bibliography includes some of the many resources for prayers and liturgical materials from around the world. All books are readily available from Amazon.com.

600 Blessings and Prayers from Around the World
This resource includes prayers from English-speaking countries such as the UK, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, and the United States.

1000 World Prayers
Marcus Braybrooke (O Books, 2003)
Prayers, poems, and quotes from many religious traditions around the world, including both historical and contemporary sources.

An African Prayer Book
Desmond Tutu, editor, (Image, 2006).
This book of African prayers was compiled by Nobel Peace Prize winner and Archbishop, Desmond Tutu of South Africa. Each prayer is noted both for its country and the indigenous peoples from which it comes.

Gifts of Many Cultures: Worship Resources for the Global Community
Maren C. Tirabassi and Kathy Wonson Eddy, (Pilgrim Press, 1995)
This resource includes a wide variety of worship materials, including full services, prayers, invocations, benedictions, scripture resources, litanies, artwork, poetry, stories, and descriptions of various worship practices and activities. The country of origin is listed for each entry, and there is also a complete index by country.

Hallelujah for the Day: An African Prayer Book
This book contains 150 prayers from 50 African societies. Each prayer lists both its ethnic and country of origin, and there is a map of Africa at the beginning of the book showing the locations of the different indigenous peoples.

Harvest for the World: A Worship Anthology on Sharing in the Work of Creation
Geoffrey Duncan (Pilgrim Press, 2003)
Includes prayers, blessings, graces, and a global selection of recipes.
In God's Hands: Common Prayer for the Word
Hugh McCullum, Terry MacArthur (World Council of Churches, 2006)
This book includes prayers and other worship materials encompassing every region and nation of the world, and from many Christians traditions and communities, arranged in a weekly prayer format.

Of Rolling Waters and Roaring Wind: A Celebration of Woman Song
Edna Orteza, Lynda Katsuno (World Council of Churches, 2000)
Prayers, meditations, poems and reflections, by women around the world, living in different social and cultural contexts and drawing on diverse church traditions. Also includes a series of meditations for Holy Week and some 20 songs of prayer and praise.

Prayers Encircling the World: An International Anthology
(Westminster John Knox Press, 1999)
This resource includes 300 Christian prayers from over 60 countries. The country of origin is listed for each entry, and the countries are also indexed. Prayers are organized by theme.

Prayers from the East: Traditions of Eastern Christianity
This unique collection of liturgical prayers reveals the great diversity of the Christian East, including the Armenian Apostolic Church, the Syriac Orthodox Church of Antioch, the Coptic Orthodox Church and many others.
International Resources for Worship
Multicultural Hymns and Readings

Chalice Hymnal - Multicultural Hymns
(Listed alphabetically by country/language)

590  Kum Ba Yah  Africa
292  Miren Que Bueno! (O Look and Wonder)  Argentina
342  Tu Has Venido a la Orilla (...Come to the Lakeshore)  Argentina
41  Halle-Halle-Hallelujah  Caribbean
329  Come, Be Glad!  Caribbean melody
607  In All Seasons Seeking God  China
764  Psalm 133  Finnish and Spanish
600  Jesu, Jesu  Ghana
731  Psalm 19:1-10  Hebrew melody
302  Ask Your God  Indonesia
438  Shalom Chaverim  Israel
422  Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ  Jamaican tune
278  Here, O Lord, Your Servants Gather  Japan
685  God Made All People of the World  Korea
474  I Will Go Wherever God Calls  Korea
175  Lovely Star in the Sky  Korea
513  Now I Have New Life in Christ  Korea
667  With the Wings of Our Mind  Korea
29  Alabare (Oh, I Will Praise)  Latin America
522  Amarte Solo a Ti, Senor (Loving Only You, Christ)  Latin America
111  Santo, Santo, Santo (Holy, Holy, Holy)  Latin America
291  Senor, Yo Quiero Entrar (O God, I Want to Enter)  Latin America
493  Somos Uno en Cristo (We’re United in Jesus)  Latin America
520  Yo Quiero Ser (I Want to Be)  Latin America
507  Sometime God Begins a Project  Latvia
30  Masithi (Sing Amen)  South Africa
447  Thuma Mina  South Africa
442  Siyahamba (We are Walking/Caminando)  South Africa (w/ Spanish version)
60  Cantemos al Senor (Let’s Sing Unto the Lord)  Spanish
662  Cuando el Pobre (When the Poor Ones)  Spanish
45  Dios Padre, Dios Hijo (Father God, God the Son)  Spanish
652  En el Principio (In the Beginning)  Spanish
421  Hasta Tu Altar (Unto Your Table, Lord)  Spanish
107  Jesucristo Es el Senor (Jesus Christ is Lord of All)  Spanish
109  Jesus Es Mi Rey Soberano (O Jesus, My King and My Sovereign)  Spanish
536  Pues Si Vivimos (When We Are Living)  Spanish
169  Santisimo! (O Thou Joyful)  Spanish
478  Sois lo Semilla (You Are the Seed)  Spanish
396  Una Espiga (Sheaves of Summer)  Spanish
496  Unidos (Together)  Spanish
617  Yo Vivo, Senor, Porque Tu Vives (I Am Living, Lord, Because You Live)  Spanish
751  Psalm 99:1-5, 9  Spanish melody
436  Shalom to You  Spanish melody
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### International Resources for Worship

#### Multicultural Hymns and Readings

**New Century Hymnal - Multicultural Hymns**

(Listed alphabetically by country/language)

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# International Resources for Worship
## Multicultural Hymns and Readings

### Chalice Hymnal - Multicultural Readings
(Listed by country/language)

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Sunday School Presentations

ADULTS:

Time: Usually 45-55 minutes

Outline: Modify your general presentation outline.
Maintain your full visual presentation (15-25 minutes).
Shorten your introduction, question and answer period and closing.
Be sure to include:
- Thanks
- Your context, using a map
- Where the money comes from
- Where is God in all of this?
- Scripture
- Prayer

There are numerous resources provided on our Global Ministries web site including prayers,
songs and litanies. Go to <www.globalministries.org> and click on “resources” to locate these
options.

If the group has heard you the night before, or will hear you at a larger event, and this is
your second presentation with them:

Repeat your context: where you are from, what you do, and that you work for Global
Ministries (United Church of Christ and the Christian Church Disciples of Christ).

Pick one or two areas for focus related to Global Ministries, and connect them to life in North
America.

Create a Bible study that relates to mission in general or mission in particular. Ask what the
Bible is telling us to do. Refer to one or two specific scripture passages, such as James 2:14,
Choose a topic such as:

- The AIDS epidemic: What’s happening globally? What’s happening in North
  America? What does God call us to do?
- Political turmoil: What’s happening in a certain region? How does U.S. foreign
  policy effect the situation or connect to it? What does God call us to do? You might
  make specific advocacy suggestions, and even help the group write letters to political
  leaders during the time you’re with them.
- Evangelism: How is the Gospel message spreading abroad? How is the church in the
  U.S. connected? Through giving? Education? Advocacy? What is God calling upon
  us to do?
- Health care
- Education and schooling
CHILDREN:
Children tend to be lively and easily distracted. Children like to laugh and interact. Different ages cannot easily be grouped together. What works for first graders won’t necessarily work for third-graders and a junior high program won’t necessarily work for high school youth.

Introduce yourself: Let the children know what you would like them to call you.

Contextualize: Use a big map or globe. For younger children, try putting it on the floor and sitting around it. Have the children find and touch both the U.S. and a country you choose to speak of. Talk about how many airplane hours there are between the two. Help them spell the country’s name and see it. Identify the continent and neighboring countries. Ask if they know anything about the country.

Involve the children: Include opportunities for the children to be active and engaged.

Games:
• Create a game (word bingo, concentration, password) that uses words and/or pictures to describe the work of Global Ministries.
• Create a game to teach a skill necessary in a country. Missionaries to China created “The Chopstick Game.” Missionaries to Lesotho help children try to carry items on their heads.
• For older children, use a simulation game to explain issues like world hunger and global economics.

Puzzles: Create word and picture puzzles that will teach children about mission.

Songs: Teach lively choruses. Words with hand movements are usually a big hit. If you know how to sign the song, teach that, too.

Fashions: Bring interesting and special articles of clothing. Let the children try on the items.

Toys: Bring a toy to show, or help the children make one.

Crafts: help the children make a simple craft, e.g. weave a mat out of paper, paper cranes, paper lanterns.

Drawing: make photocopies of black-and-white sketches for coloring, for example the national flag, a map, articles of clothing, animals specific to a country.

Resources: One Great Hour of Sharing/Week of Compassion activity booklets contain excellent ideas. Kids to Kids VBS Curriculum is also a great resource, available at http://www.discipleshomemissions.org/Kids2Kids/index.html
**Global Ministries Website**

**www.globalministries.org**

**Finding it on the web**
The following are lists of the menu items accessible from the top menu of every Global Ministries webpage and what you will find in the “drop down” of each menu.

**About Us**
- What is Global Ministries? mission statement, frequently asked questions, history
- Be a Global Mission Church: resources, booklet, PowerPoint presentation
- Contact Us: alphabetical staff directory
- Job Openings: positions overseas and U.S.
- Site Map: listing of menu headings and contents on Global Ministries site
- Disciples link
- UCC link
- Passport to Global Ministries: passport brochure and overview of Global Ministries

**News**
- Latest News: most recent postings to the Global Ministries website
- Global Ministries Updates: archive of GM updates (sent weekly in email)
- Events: upcoming events sponsored by or related to Global Ministries
- Losses to the Family: deaths related to Global Ministries

**People in Mission**
- Missionaries: alphabetical listing of missionaries, link to mission stories and news
- Global Mission Interns: alphabetical listing of Global Mission Interns
- Volunteers: alphabetical listing of volunteers, link to mission stories and news
- Group Trips: People to People Pilgrimages, program info, upcoming trips, trip reports
- Missionary Relationships: how to establish a missionary relationship, hosting a missionary visit, missionary relationships and visits by conference/region
- Associates: listing of associates by area of the world
- Seminarians: GM Council of Theological Students, program, newsletters

**Mission Areas**: each mission area page has a clickable map of countries where Global Ministries has missionaries, partners, and projects, missionaries in that region, special projects, partner information, missionaries and their stories, staff, and news
- Africa
- East Asia and the Pacific
- Latin America and the Caribbean
- Middle East and Europe
- Southern Asia
- United States and Canada: ways to be involved in global mission in the U.S. and Canada, including refugee resettlement, disaster response, volunteering domestically.
Get Involved

• Justice and Advocacy: current action items, advocacy priorities, resources, globalization, peace and justice, human rights, poverty, global stewardship
• Child Sponsorship: how to sponsor a child, site descriptions, application, stories from children and sponsors
• Special Giving Opportunities: search for giving opportunities based on interest or country, giving resources, critical presence giving opportunities
• Ministries and Mission Interpreters: about MMI, upcoming training events, resources for interpretation
• Mission Opportunities: ways to engage in mission service
• Missionary Visits and Relationships: how to establish a missionary relationship, hosting a missionary visit, missionary relationships and visits by conference/region
• Church-to-Church Partnerships: about Global Ministries partnerships and how to become a partner with an overseas church

Resources

• Worship Resources: global worship resources from missionaries, staff, and partners for the church year, special days, and general worship
• Overseas Staff Stories: stories and news from missionaries, volunteers, Global Mission Interns
• Mission Study: mission history, College of Mission papers, mission theology, Bible study
• Multimedia Resources: Video mission moments, Connecting Threads videos, worship global music, PowerPoint presentations, streaming video, brochures, booklets, and resource ordering information
• Special Days/Themes: resources focusing on special days (World AIDS Day, World Communion Sunday, etc.) and topics (water, interfaith relations, disaster response, etc.)
• Videos: video Mission Moments, missionary interviews, Global Ministries videos
• Youth and Children: resources and activities for use with VBS, Sunday school, Bible study, camp, youth groups
### Specific Web Addresses

Each web address begins with www.globalministries.org, then the indicated extension.

For example, “About Global Ministries” is www.globalministries.org/about-us/

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Web Address</th>
<th>URL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>About Global Ministries</td>
<td>/about-us/</td>
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<tr>
<td>Most recent news</td>
<td>/news/</td>
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<tr>
<td>Search news by country, topic</td>
<td>/news/all-news.html</td>
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<td>Global Ministries’ missionaries</td>
<td>/mission/missionaries/</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stories and news from missionaries</td>
<td>/resources/missionary-stories.html</td>
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<td>Group Trips: People to People Pilgrimages</td>
<td>/mission/group-trips/</td>
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<td>Africa</td>
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<td>Sudan</td>
<td>/africa/countries/sudan/</td>
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<td>East Asia and the Pacific</td>
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<tr>
<td>Latin America and the Caribbean</td>
<td>/lac/</td>
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<td>Middle East and Europe</td>
<td>/mee/</td>
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<tr>
<td>Southern Asia</td>
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<tr>
<td>United States and Canada</td>
<td>/usa/</td>
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<tr>
<td>Justice and Advocacy</td>
<td>/get-involved/justice-and-advocacy/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Sponsorship</td>
<td>/get-involved/child-sponsorship/</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special Giving Opportunities</td>
<td>/get-involved/special-giving-opportunities/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministries and Mission Interpreters</td>
<td>/get-involved/ministries-and-mission-interpreters/</td>
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<tr>
<td>Worship Resources</td>
<td>/resources/worship-resources/</td>
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<tr>
<td>Multimedia Resources (video, powerpoint)</td>
<td>/resources/multimedia-resources/</td>
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<tr>
<td>Youth and Children Resources (VBS)</td>
<td>/resources/youth-and-children/</td>
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<td>Water for All</td>
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<td>Climate Change</td>
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<td>Peacemaking</td>
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<td>Human Rights</td>
<td>/get-involved/justice-and-advocacy/human-rights/</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIV/AIDS</td>
<td>/resources/special-days/aids-day/</td>
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### UCC Websites

<table>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United Church of Christ</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ucc.org/">http://www.ucc.org/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Find a UCC Church</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ucc.org/find/">http://www.ucc.org/find/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Great Hour of Sharing</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ucc.org/oghs/">http://www.ucc.org/oghs/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Volunteer Ministries in the U.S.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ucc.org/volunteer/">http://www.ucc.org/volunteer/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>National Disaster Ministries</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ucc.org/oghs/national/">http://www.ucc.org/oghs/national/</a></td>
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### Disciples Websites

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Website</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.disciples.org/">http://www.disciples.org/</a></td>
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<td>Find a Disciples Congregation</td>
<td><a href="http://www.disciples.org/congregations/locate/">http://www.disciples.org/congregations/locate/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Disciples Region Directory</td>
<td><a href="http://www.disciples.org/region/staff.htm">http://www.disciples.org/region/staff.htm</a></td>
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<td>Week of Compassion</td>
<td><a href="http://www.weekofcompassion.org/">http://www.weekofcompassion.org/</a></td>
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<td>Refugee and Immigration Ministries</td>
<td><a href="http://www.homelandministries.org/RIM/index.htm">http://www.homelandministries.org/RIM/index.htm</a></td>
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<td>Disciples Volunteering</td>
<td><a href="http://www.homelandministries.org/Volunteer/index.htm">http://www.homelandministries.org/Volunteer/index.htm</a></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Inquiry Follow-up

We will relay specific inquiries to appropriate Global Ministries staff. (Remember to use the yellow cards in gathering contact information, possible.)

WE MUST HAVE COMPLETE CONTACT INFORMATION. Thanks for your help!

Your Name: _______________________________________________________________________________

Region/Conference: _________________________________________________________________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date Hosted: ___________</th>
<th>Name (Mr/Mrs/Ms/Rev/Dr)</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Phone: __________________</td>
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<tr>
<td>Church Name _____________________________</td>
<td>Pastor ___________________</td>
<td>Inquiry: ____________________________</td>
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**Mail to:**

Bob Shebeck, PO Box 1986, Indianapolis, IN 46206
OR
Jan Aerie, 700 Prospect Ave., Cleveland, OH 44115